

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CARACA 08504 082002Z
ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 EB-08 COME-00

PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 /048 W

-----030081 100325Z /66

R 081901Z SEP 78

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3781

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

USNCICLANT NORFOLK VA

USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 8504

USCINCLANT FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PEPR PINT VE

SUBJECT: THIS WEEK IN VENEZUELA

REF: (A) CARACAS 8282, (B) CARACAS 8380, (C) CARACAS 8484

SUMMARY: A SLOW WEEK IN VENEZUELA. NICARAGUAN SITUATION
CONTINUES TO DOMINATE GOV ATTENTION. PLASTI-EQUIPOS
EXHIBITION. END SUMMARY.

1. A SLOW WEEK IN VENEZUELA.

WITH THE NICARAGUAN CRISIS AND THE ARRIVAL ON SEPTEMBER 6,
OF SPANISH PRIME MINISTER ADOLFO SUAREZ CAPTURING THE FOREIGN
AFFAIRS HEADLINES, THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL PANORAMA WAS
RELATIVELY DEAD. LUIS HERRERA CAMPINS MADE A FEW FITFUL
STARTS AT GETTING BACK FULL TIME TO THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL,
BUT THE CONTINUING COPEI PREOCCUPATION WITH SELECTING PARTY
SLATES (WHICH HAS DEVELOPED INTO A MINOR CRISIS FOR THE PARTY)

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CARACA 08504 082002Z

HAS EFFECTIVELY ROBBED THE HERRERA CAMPAIGN OF THE MODEST
MOMENTUM IT BUILT UP THE PREVIOUS MONTH. THE AD CANDIDATE,
LUIS PINERUA ORDAZ, CONTINUED HIS METHODICAL CAMPAIGN, STILL
PLUGGING AWAY AT PROPAGANDIZING HIS CAMPAIGN POSITION AND
PROMISES. BUT EVEN HIS CAMPAIGN LOST THE POLITICAL SPOTLIGHT
AS THE PARTY THIS WEEK BEGAN TO RELEASE, PIECEMEAL, ITS
PARTY SLATE.

2. NICARAGUAN SITUATION CONTINUES TO DOMINATE GOV ATTENTION. NICARAGUA REMAINED THE FOCUS OF MEDIA AND GOVERNMENT ATTENTION THIS WEEK, WITH HEADLINES GIVEN TO GOV EFFORTS TO TAKE NICARAGUAN CRISIS BEFORE THE OAS AND TO SOMOZA'S CHARGES OF GOV INTERVENTION IN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS (REF B). A PARADE OF VENEZUELAN POLITICIANS CONTINUED THEIR DENUNCIATIONS OF THE SOMOZA REGIME AND STATEMENTS IN FAVOR OF PRESIDENT PEREZ' RECENT ACTIONS. FONMIN CONSALVI, IN STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS SEPTEMBER 7, SAID THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF A BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH NICARAGUA "COULD NOT BE DISCARDED." IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS, THE CONFEDERATION OF VENEZUELAN WORKERS (CTV) AGREED THIS WEEK (REF C) TO SEND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO NICARAGUAN TRADE UNIONISTS AND NOTED THE CONTINUING BOYCOTT BY VENEZUELAN PETROLEUM AND PORT WORKERS IN HANDLING OIL AND OTHER CARGO SHIPMENTS TO NICARAGUA. NICARAGUAN EXILE ACTIVITIES IN VENEZUELA ALSO CONTINUED TO BE PUBLICIZED WITH ANOTHER VENEZUELAN COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH NICARAGUA ESTABLISHED IN MARACAIBO EARLIER THIS WEEK. THE MARACAIBO COMMITTEE IS HEADED BY A NICARAGUAN EXILE PEDRO RIVAS, AND INCLUDES TWO ALLEGED SANDINIST GUERRILLAS, JUAN SALGADO AND MIGUEL GOMEZ. A CARACAS COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH NICARAGUA IS HEADED BY THE VENEZUELAN WRITER ANA MERCEDES PEREZ. COMMENT: ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL PRESS, AN ESTIMATED 700 NICARAGUAN EXILES ARE NOW LIVING IN MARACAIBO WITH AN ADDITIONAL BUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CARACA 08504 082002Z

UNKNOWN NUMBER IN CARACAS. ANTI-SOMOZA PRESS HAS BEEN HEAVY. EXILE GROUPS RECEIVE PERIODIC COVERAGE OF THEIR ACTIVITIES AND PROPAGANDA FROM A SYMPATHETIC LOCAL PRESS. MOST RECENTLY, NICARAGUAN EXILES HAVE BEGUN A CAMPAIGN OF COLLECTING FUNDS TO "AID THE ONGOING STRUGGLE AGAINST THE SOMOZA REGIME." LITTLE MORE IS KNOWN ABOUT THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF THE FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN. END COMMENT.

3. PLASTI-EQUIPOS EXHIBITION.

PLASTI-EQUIPOS, A U.S. EXHIBITION DIRECTED AT THE PLASTIC INDUSTRY, WAS INAUGURATED SEPTEMBER 4 BY CLAUDIO BEHRENS, PRESIDENT OF THE VENEZUELAN PLASTICS INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION. TWENTY-ONE OF THE LEADING U.S. COMPANIES IN PROVIDING MACHINERY AND MATERIALS FOR THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE WEEK-LONG SHOW AT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE'S THOMAS ALVA EDISON EXHIBIT FACILITY. ATTENDANCE HAS BEEN GOOD, AVERAGING OVER 200 PER DAY AND INCLUDING BUYERS FROM ECUADOR, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, BRAZIL, THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND ARGENTINA, AS WELL AS FROM THE PRINCIPAL VENEZUELAN COMPANIES IN THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY.

4. OTHER REPORTING THIS WEEK INCLUDES:

PAYMENT OF AIRPORT AND AIRWAYS CHARGES TO BE ENFORCED

(CARACAS 8265)

CIVAIR: ATC CONTROLLERS ON SLOWDOWN STRIKE (CARACAS 8304)

CIVAIR: AIRLINE PILOT ASSOCIATION WARNS OF CONDITIONS ON

AIRPORTS (CARACAS 8297)

JAPANESE OFFICIALS HERE TO DISCUSS HEAVY OIL TECHNOLOGY

(CARACAS 8332)

VISITING NICARAGUAN TRADE UNIONIST SOLICITS HELP FOR GENERAL

STRIKE (CARACAS 8287)

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT PEREZ TO PRESIDENT CARTER ON CAMP DAVID

MEETING (CARACAS 8294)

GOV SPOKESMAN DENIES SOMOZA CHARGES OF INTERVENTION (CARACAS

8380)

ECONOMIC COMMISSION TO TRAVEL TO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 CARACA 08504 082002Z

(CARACAS 8444).

VENEZUELAN LABOR MOVEMENT CONFIRMS ACTION SUPPORTING

NICARAGUAN STRIKE (CARACAS 8484)

ANTI-CUABN TERRORIST ACTIVITY: STATUS OF BOSCH CASE

(CARACAS 8464).

CROWLEY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SUMMARIES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CARACA08504
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780368-0913
Format: TEL
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780990/aaaacwjr.tel
Line Count: 142
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eabade55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 CARACAS 8282, 78 CARACAS 8380, 78 CARACAS 8484
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1510858
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THIS WEEK IN VENEZUELA
TAGS: PEPR, PINT, VE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eabade55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014